

ENTIRE FUNCTIONS WITH RADIALLY DISTRIBUTED ZEROS

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1. In our previous paper [1], we considered the entire functions of positive integral order and obtained the following characterization of the exponential function.

THEOREM A. *Suppose that $f(z)$ is an entire function of positive integral order p , and that $f(z)$ has no zeros in a sector $\{z; |\arg z| < \pi - \pi/2p + \eta\}$ ($\eta > 0$) and $\delta(0, f) = 1$. If there exists a Jordan curve l joining $z=0$ to $z=\infty$ such that*

$$f(z)f(\omega z) \cdots f(\omega^{2p-1}z) = O(1) \quad (z \in l)$$

where $\omega = \exp(\pi i/p)$, then $f(z) = e^{P(z)}$ where $P(z)$ is a polynomial of degree p , or else

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log |f(r)||}{r^p} = +\infty.$$

In this paper, we show that we can remove the condition on the deficiency. But we confine the distribution of zeros in a sector with half opening and prove the following.

THEOREM 1. *Suppose that $f(z)$ is an entire function of positive integral order p , and that $f(z)$ has only zeros in a sector $\{z; |\arg z - \pi| \leq \pi/4p - \eta = \alpha\}$ ($\eta > 0$). If there exists a Jordan curve l joining $z=0$ to $z=\infty$ such that*

$$(1) \quad f(z)f(\omega z) \cdots f(\omega^{2p-1}z) = O(1) \quad (z \in l)$$

where $\omega = \exp(\pi i/p)$, then $f(z) = e^{P(z)}$ where $P(z)$ is a polynomial of degree p , or else

$$(2) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log |f(r)||}{r^p} = +\infty.$$

In our previous paper [1], we also considered the entire function of order $q=2p+1$ having only negative zeros and obtained the following characterization of the exponential function.

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